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THE CROP REPORTERS MAGAZINE • MARCH 1977
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE



FARMING'S FADING UNIQUENESS

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Shortly before he left USDA to return to Purdue University, Don Paarlberg, Assistant Secretary for Agricultural Economics, was asked, "What is the most important thing that has happened in agriculture during the past 8 years?"

After considerable thought, he replied, "The most important thing . . . is that agriculture is losing its uniqueness."

Later, Dr. Paarlberg elaborated on that response with the following remarks before a group of agricultural writers and broadcasters in Washington, D.C.—

Agriculture was once unique and different, favorably distinguished from other forms of livelihood. This was true economically, culturally, and politically.

When our Nation was founded, farming was a way of life, not truly a commercial enterprise. Farm and household were combined, almost inseparable. Farming was basic. If someone left agriculture, the essential thing about him, whatever he did, was that he became a nonfarmer.

Farmers produced the new wealth;

manufacturers and merchants merely elaborated and redistributed that wealth. Farmers made good citizens and good soldiers. They were free, independent, and self-reliant. They constituted the great majority of the population—more than 90 percent in colonial times. They were readily distinguishable from the rest of the population by appearance, speech, and manner. They were considered the proper custodians of political power.

So the division of the population into farm and nonfarm categories made a lot of sense.

There developed a body of rhetoric and a set of institutions that supported and reinforced the farm-nonfarm delineation. The rhetoric took a form which came to be known as "agricultural fundamentalism," and expressed the image and ideal of agriculture like this:

Family farms in great numbers, owned by the men who operated them, producing a large and growing volume of crops and livestock.

Farm operators who were



sturdy and self-reliant, making their own decisions, turning their farms over to their sons upon retirement, enjoying the satisfaction that comes from an honorable occupation, experiencing a rising standard of living, and feeling the prestige that results from land ownership.

These ideas readily took hold in a country with a growing population, a vast expanse of fertile unused land, and a new government intent on opportunity for the common man. Farmers didn't have to be taught these things; they felt them in their bones. Agriculture was unique.

The institutions that developed reflected this uniqueness. We set up a separate Department of Agriculture. We passed the Homestead Act. When labor legislation was enacted, there were exceptions for agriculture, because agriculture was unique. Likewise for social security.

The Land Grant Colleges were set up as unique institutions, to serve a unique constituency. We insisted that the uniqueness applied even to

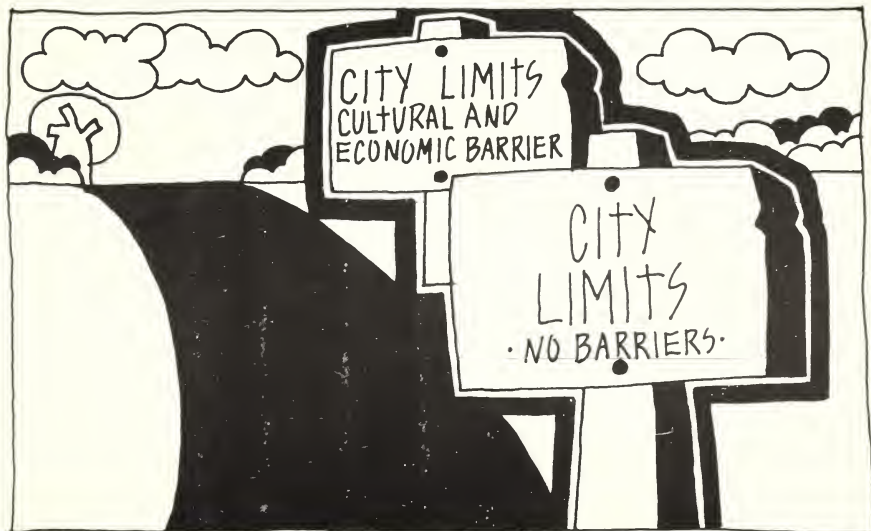
the scientific disciplines. There were chemistry and engineering, economics and statistics. Agricultural pieces of these disciplines were pried off and taught in the School of Agriculture.

So we had a good, tight delineation, farm and nonfarm, reinforced by a body of rhetoric and supported by a set of institutions. The whole thing seemed logical and unchangeable. And it worked. With this set of ideas and institutions we settled the West, increased the food supply, and gave status to our farm people.

Then came the scientist, the technologist, the engineer, the businessman, and the educator. There came the tractor, the automobile, the Experiment Station, the Extension Service, and the agricultural college.

There came rural free delivery, rural electrification, paved roads, the consolidated school and central markets. There came the radio, the telephone, television, and the farm press.

There came the management people, who broke apart the factors of production as they had long existed on the family farm—land,



labor, capital, and management in the hands of one person—and recombined them in optimum fashion, so that organizationally, farms began to look like other business enterprises.

Farmers began to rent land, hire labor, and borrow capital. Farms were incorporated. The farm business began to separate itself from the household. The farmer bought his fuel and fertilizer rather than produce his own. His wife bought her groceries at the supermarket, as other people did, and perhaps took a job in town to add to family income.

The farm population declined, and is now approximately 4 percent of the total. It became first a minority of the total and then a minority of the rural population, where farmers are now outnumbered about five to one. Things are now at such a pass that the net income of farmers from farming is only about half of the income of farm people. The balance comes from off-farm earnings of the farm family.

Whereas formerly farm people were readily distinguishable to the eye and ear, they are no longer. The farm audiences that I meet would be

hard to tell from an audience of hardware merchants. Farm income per person, formerly far below the nonfarm figure, is inching toward equivalence.

Thus, the farm-nonfarm delineation is being blurred. The City Limits sign, formerly a cultural and economic barrier, is becoming merely a line marking the difference between units of local government.

No doubt about it, agriculture is losing its uniqueness. Apart from historic reasons, it makes approximately as much sense today to divide the population into farm and nonfarm categories as it would to divide us into businessmen and nonbusinessmen, teachers and nonteachers, barbers and nonbarbers.

When agriculture loses its uniqueness, what happens to the unique institutions that were set up to service it? And what happens to the rhetoric that eulogized this once unique form of livelihood?

The scientists and the technologists are the unintended architects of economic, social, and political change. There is a principle which declares that when technical change occurs, institutional



changes must in time take place.

The old rhetoric will be repeated long after the change has occurred. The order of change is as follows: first the fact, then the deed, finally the word.

We see this in agriculture. Technical change has occurred and is by no means complete. Institutional accommodations are being made, reluctantly, and painfully. But out in the country, the rhetoric of agricultural fundamentalism is still being voiced.

These last 8 years have witnessed the delayed impact of technical change on our agricultural institutions. The effect has been profound. I list the following evidence:

1) Farmers are deporting themselves, in their business decisions, more like nonfarm people than like the farmers of former times.

2) The old idea that a farmer should live poor so as to die rich is gradually changing. Fewer farmers now aspire to be the richest man in the cemetery.

3) The agricultural establishment has lost control of the farm policy

agenda. Major issues of agricultural policy these past 8 years have been the ecology, consumer concerns, food supplies and the like—questions placed on the agenda by nonfarm people.

4) The constituency of the Department of Agriculture has changed. Only 16 percent of our 1977 budget is now in the form of research, education, and other services devoted to our historic farm clientele. The balance is for food stamps, lending programs, natural resources, environmental services, and other new agenda items.

5) On policy issues in the field of food and agriculture, USDA is no longer clearly decisive within the Executive Branch. The Departments of State and Treasury, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Council of Economic Advisors take on larger responsibility.

6) The Land Grant Colleges, no longer sure of the uniqueness of their role, are broadening their services to encompass the rural nonfarm sector and indeed the urban groups.

7) Farm organizations are working with nonfarm groups through a series of alliances.



The rhetoric is changing too, though the change comes slowly. It would not be possible today, as it was 25 years ago, for economist Carl Wilken to get an attentive hearing for his contention that a dollar generated in agriculture would multiply itself seven times as it moved through the economy.

But agricultural fundamentalism still sounds good in the rural areas. Though robbed of much of its meaning, it still has the power to move an audience. If a person listens to the rhetoric and generalizes from it, he can drift totally out of touch with the true situation.

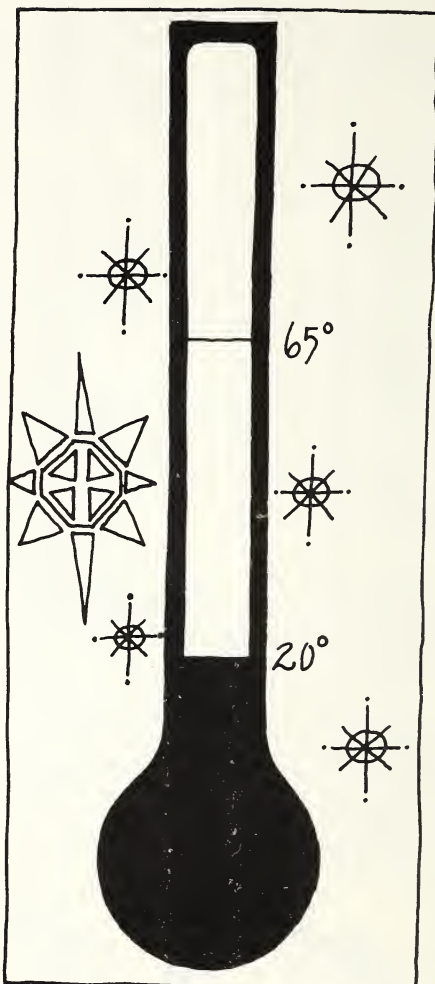
If I had to name one perception that best explains the farm policy issues of these turbulent times, it would be this—that agriculture is losing its uniqueness. It is entering the mainstream of economic life.

Ultimately, the institutions and the rhetoric must take into account this overriding fact. We are experiencing the creaks and groans that accompany this adjustment. An accumulation of institutional changes, piled up behind the obstacle of social inertia, has finally broken loose.

These changes have both pluses and minuses. On the one hand we remove, both directly and indirectly, the disadvantages of income, opportunity, and social services that farm people once felt. At the same time we set in motion forces that deprive farmers of a sense of unique worthiness and push them toward becoming an undifferentiated part of an homogenized society.

How do I react, watching and participating in these changes? We are near the end of an era. I raise a cheer, a rather weak cheer, not two. Certainly not three.

But what difference does it make whether we raise one cheer or two or three—or none at all? The change is underway and it is irreversible. Turning it around would be about as likely a prospect as putting the chicken back in the egg.



ANOTHER WAY TO MEASURE COLD

It's no surprise that when the temperature goes down, heating bills mount. But are the higher costs due simply to colder weather. . .or maybe to a faulty furnace?

One way to find out is to keep track of the degree days where you live instead of just the temperature. As a measure of coldness, the heating degree day statistic is a key to how much heating fuel your home uses in the wintertime.

Developed by heating engineers at the turn of the century, the degree day relates average temperature to fuel needs. Today, professional engineers use the degree day statistic for a number of purposes, such as checking the efficiency of large heating plants.

Extensive studies have shown that when the average outdoor temperature (the high and low readings for each day divided by 2) measures 65° or higher, most buildings need no heat to maintain an inside temperature of at least 70°. Each degree below 65° counts as 1 degree day. For example, when the average daily temperature pencils out to 61°, then 4 degree days have accumulated in that 24-hour period. If the average temperature exceeds 65°, the heating degree day value is zero.

Homeowners with a mathematical bent can apply the degree day concept to their own homes. For a week or two, keep a record of the accumulated degree days and home fuel consumption (check your meter for this). Then divide the amount of fuel used by the total degree days to learn the

amount of fuel per degree day required to heat your home.

Once you know the amount of fuel normally needed (and assuming your furnace worked properly when this was determined), it's easy to tell if skyrocketing fuel costs should be blamed on a sharp plunge in the mercury or whether it's time to call in a furnace specialist.

Probably better than anyone else, the fuel industry knows that the economic impact of a sudden cold snap can be tremendous. In fact, fuel costs in a service area easily run into the thousands of dollars for each degree day. By keeping an eye on the heating degree day statistic and normal temperatures throughout the year, gas and oil companies can monitor fuel consumption, and so determine upcoming fuel needs and time their purchases accordingly.

The table below lists the number of heating degree days normally accumulated by 15 U.S. cities during the last 3 months of the primary heating season, with 1975/76 comparisons. Consider, too, that in a normal year, the degree day total in Barrow, Alaska, tops 20,000!

DEGREE DAY TALLIES IN 15 CITIES

City	January Norm 1976		February Norm 1976		March Norm 1976		Annual Norm	Total 1975/76
Washington, D.C.	911	956	776	524	617	415	4211	3413
Philadelphia, Pa.	1014	1120	871	692	716	572	4865	4258
Trenton, N.J.	1020	1123	885	758	738	606	4947	4418
New York, N.Y.	1017	1111	885	695	741	618	4848	4376
Boston, Mass.	1110	1198	969	800	834	733	5621	4897
Buffalo, N.Y.	1280	1400	1137	958	1020	853	6927	6418
Cleveland, Ohio	1181	1336	1039	836	896	614	6154	5701
Detroit, Mich.	1252	1413	1075	914	921	757	6419	5503
Chicago, Ill.	1305	1389	1089	840	908	674	6497	5660
St. Louis, Mo.	1045	1137	837	619	682	505	4750	4455
Omaha, Nebr.	1389	1219	1106	791	942	757	6601	5347
Minneapolis, Minn.	1649	1650	1366	1074	1147	1031	8310	7170
Denver, Colo.	1088	1006	902	740	868	859	6016	5637
Salt Lake City, Utah	1147	1207	885	890	787	826	5978	5745
Seattle-Tacoma, Wash.	831	712	636	693	648	781	5185	4942

*Normals based on 1941-70.

SURVEYSCOPE

To give our readers a clearer picture of the vast scope of SRS activities, Agricultural Situation presents a series of articles on special surveys undertaken in various States. While these are not national surveys, they are important to the agriculture in individual States.

"Our 1976 survey of pump irrigation energy brings into sharp focus the severe cost squeeze faced by West Texas farmers," claims Will Walther, Texas agricultural statistician.

Walther's office conducted the survey last August at the request of the Governor's Energy Advisory Council and the Texas Department of Agriculture. Data collected by mail and personal interviews with 900 producers not only reveal the high cost of irrigation energy, but will prove useful to researchers working on the State's irrigation pump and energy problem.

The survey spanned the Northern and Southern High Plains and Trans-Pecos areas of West Texas, which contain roughly 12,000 irrigation farming operations and over 70 percent of the State's irrigated land.

"We found an estimated 85,000 irrigation pumps in the three-district area, with well pumps making up all but 6,500 of the total," says Walther. "High Plains farmers pump nearly all their irrigation water from wells, but Trans-Pecos producers have relied on wells considerably less since 1974, due mainly to escalating natural gas prices."



The ever-increasing cost of energy for pumping irrigation water on West Texas farms. . .

The survey showed that most pumps were driven by natural gas, which accounted for nearly 97 percent of all the Btu (British thermal units) used in irrigation. Electricity took only a little over 2 percent, and LP gas claimed less than 1 percent.

Natural gas cost an average of \$9 per acre-foot (the amount of water that would cover 1 acre the depth of 1 foot) for all three districts, but ranged from a low of \$7.31 in the Northern High Plains to \$18.97 in the Trans-Pecos area. Meantime, electricity costs averaged \$11 an acre-foot. An acre-foot of LP gas cost \$9.80 in the Northern High Plains, while Trans-Pecos producers paid as much as \$23.40.

"We asked producers to estimate the cost per acre at which irrigation would no longer be economical assuming current crop prices," says Walther. "Their estimates averaged \$30 for wheat, \$34 for cotton, \$38 for grain sorghum, and \$56 for corn.

"We also asked farmers how their

operations might change if fuel costs continued to rise. Producers reported they would 'most likely' cut back on crop acreage. Shifts to crops requiring less water and to dryland farming also emerged as strong possibilities."

Space left on survey questionnaires for additional comments most frequently brought these responses from farmers: "Gas prices are too high. . . farmers must have higher commodity prices to offset rising fuel costs."

A significant number of respondents indicated that many farmers have already or will soon quit farming if energy costs advance further. According to the Texas Department of Agriculture, there are now places in the Trans-Pecos area where as many as 90 percent of the farmers have called it quits because of spiraling irrigation costs. This, officials say, could strike a serious blow to Texas food production, since the one-third of the tilled land which is irrigated produces two-thirds of the food in the State.



...could cause many area producers to reduce crop acreage or to quit farming altogether.

NEW PATTERNS IN FARM TRADE

No one can say that the U.S. farmer is poorly represented in the international market. His share of world agricultural trade now stands at 17 percent—a level not reached in the past two decades.

Back in the early 1950's, the United States supplied only a little over 12 percent of the world's farm exports, which indicates how far we've altered our previous trade patterns.

Behind it all is the continued growth in U.S. farm exports since 1972. The recent world food crisis, worldwide crop shortfalls, drought, import policy changes in the USSR and China, and economic growth in our major farm markets all had a hand in that expansion.

Between 1969-71 and 1973-76, the United States accounted for 82 percent of the increase in total world grain exports—90 percent in world wheat shipments and 78 percent in coarse grains. Currently, U.S. farmers provide 44 percent of the world's wheat exports and 55 percent of its coarse grain exports.

Demand for food and feed in the developed countries played a key role in altering traditional trade patterns. In 1955, commodity sales among developed nations accounted for 39 percent of all world farm trade, but by 1972-73, had risen to nearly 50 percent.

Meantime, farm product sales by the developed countries to the less developed countries (LDC's) rose as well, so that by the early 1970's the more advanced nations furnished more than 60 percent of the world's agricultural exports and almost 60 percent of the farm goods imported by the LDC's.

These shifts show that the LDC's—and more recently the centrally planned economies of the USSR and Eastern Europe—have become increasingly dependent on the developed nations for food.

As the LDC's and centrally planned countries began buying more agricultural goods from developed countries, they also started trading less among themselves. Twenty years ago, the centrally planned nations relied on each other for about 65 percent of their farm imports. But by the first half of the 1970's, that portion had slipped to 35 percent.

Similarly, the LDC's now get less than a third of all their agricultural imports from other LDC's—compared with nearly half in 1955.

BEATING BUGS WITH VIRUS

A virus, harmless to man, that can eliminate large numbers of bugs, among them two notoriously destructive pests of cotton, the bollworm and tobacco budworm. . .

Sound impossible? Until recently, it practically was. That's because ultraviolet rays from the sun sharply cut the virus' potential to biologically control a host of pesky insects.

But scientists got over that hurdle by encasing the virus with materials that screen out the sun's powerful rays. Two of the best screening agents are also readily available—carbon black, used in making ink and rubber; and titanium dioxide, a white substance known for its opaqueness.

The screening agents protect the virus until it's eaten by caterpillars. Then the virus attacks from within, causing death and disintegration, and further releasing large amounts of virus. Other pests eat the increasingly abundant virus, and set off an epidemic.

Scientists claim that when it becomes available, the encapsulated virus can be used with conventional application equipment. Meantime, researchers will develop "gustatory stimulants" to make the virus an even more irresistible treat for hungry bugs.

U.S. FARMS: STILL DISAPPEARING



Each year, SRS's count of farms in the United States comes up just a little bit smaller.

Last year was no exception, with an estimated 2.78 million farms in operation across the country, a drop of 1 percent from a year earlier. Preliminary estimates for 1977 show a similar decline—down to around 2.75 million.

The gradual trickling away of the Nation's farms also reaches over into the amount of land in farming. In 1966, for example, American farmers raised crops and livestock on 1.13 billion acres. But a decade of successive year-to-year declines brought last year's total to 1.08 billion. This year, another 2.75 million acres are expected to drop out of the farmland inventory.

But while U.S. farm numbers have shrunk by 15 percent in the past 10 years, total land in farming registered only a 4-percent decline.

That's reflected in the average size of the American farm, which has climbed each year from 1966's 348 acres to 390 acres in 1976. Experts see the 1977 average edging up another 3 acres per farm—as in the past 2 years—to 393 acres.

While it lost roughly 2,000 farms since the 1975 count, Texas claimed the most farms and ranches in last year's tally—some 205,000. In 1977, another 3,000 farm operations could disappear in the Lone Star State. And after remaining unchanged since 1973, total farmland in Texas is expected to slip by about 400,000 acres—the biggest decline seen for any State except Kansas, which is expected to lose 100,000 acres more.

Not surprisingly, the smallest of our 48 adjacent States also showed the fewest farms. Only 680 farms dotted the State of Rhode Island in 1976, with 65,000 acres in crop and livestock production. The forecast for 1977: No change.

Briefings

RECENT REPORTS BY USDA OF ECONOMIC, MARKETING, AND RESEARCH DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING FARMERS.

CLEANER RAILROAD CARS? . . . That's the ultimate goal of current research aimed at preventing the contamination of food and feed products by harmful residues from previous shipments. Researchers from private industry, funded by USDA's Agricultural Research Service, will examine current methods of sanitizing box cars and covered hopper cars, and assess the practicality of adopting specific cleaning systems used by other industries, such as trucking and the airlines, food processing, and the aerospace industry. The scientists will also recommend ways to measure the degree of cleanliness in car cleaning operations, and identify specific areas where further research could help railroads become a lot more tidy at a lower cost.

THE PROCESSOR'S PICK. . . . Last year, U.S. farmers harvested 11.6 million tons of vegetables for processing, according to SRS's Crop Reporting Board. That estimate, which includes the 13 major commercial vegetables grown for the Nation's canning and frozen food industries, stands 18% below the 1975 tally. Reduced output of lima and snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, green peas, tomatoes, and cauliflower more than offset increased production of asparagus, broccoli, carrots, and spinach. The 13 crops were worth only \$869.7 million to growers last year, off 22% from 1975. Only spinach and asparagus mustered modest gains as the value of all other major vegetable crops slipped from year-earlier levels. Processing tomatoes led the decline with a 24% smaller harvest and a 30% dip in value.

THIS YEAR'S ALLOTMENT. . . . The national feed grain allotment for 1977 has been set at 89 million acres—the same as in 1976. This figure represents the harvested acreage that will produce enough corn, sorghum, and barley estimated to meet our domestic and export needs during the 1977/78 marketing year. The allotment doesn't set a limit on how much feed grain may be planted. Instead, it's used solely as a basis for making payments to producers should the market price fall below established target prices or should growers qualify for disaster payments. Last year, farmers responded more to the marketplace than the allotment, and planted roughly 112 million acres of corn, sorghum, and barley to meet domestic needs and strong export demand.

COSTLIER COCOA. . . Don't expect any bargains at the candy counter this year, warns USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service. World cocoa prices have climbed to record levels, with spot market prices for cocoa beans averaging over \$1.55 a pound last December—more than double the figure at the start of 1976. Blamed are poor crop prospects in West Africa, where nearly two-thirds of the world's cocoa comes from, as well as shaky currency conditions in Great Britain, which found traders buying commodities as a hedge against the declining value of the British pound. Total world cocoa bean production for the marketing year ending this September is forecast below 1.4 million tons, down from last season's reduced crop of 1.52 million tons that barely met world demand.

CRIME COMES TO THE COUNTRY. . . After lagging behind for generations, crime in rural areas is now climbing at a rate that about equals the national average. A study by USDA's Economic Research Service shows that while the chance of a rural dweller becoming a victim of crime remains well below that of his urban cousin, rural policemen face an increased workload because of growing populations, improved transportation that gives thieves ready access to remote areas, rising rural wealth that attracts criminals, and growing expectations of police performance by rural residents.

BULLISH ON BARLEY. . . Despite a record world barley crop during 1976/77, there remains a remarkably strong market for this grain. Led by a bumper harvest in the Soviet Union, 1976 barley output is estimated at 172 million metric tons—up 27 million tons from 1975 and 7% over the 1974 record. But crop shortfalls in Western and Eastern Europe—the two top barley importers—have prevented world prices from slipping to the low levels that would otherwise be expected. European barley production in 1976/77 dropped more than 4 million tons below the previous year's disappointing crop and over 6 million tons below 1974's relatively normal harvest.

PUFFING UP. . . Americans smoked an estimated 620 billion cigarettes last year, as a bigger adult population and increased consumer incomes boosted cigarette use roughly 1½% over 1975. A pack of cigarettes cost U.S. smokers about 4% more than a year earlier, although the hike was smaller than the rise in consumer prices in general. Only one State and the District of Columbia raised cigarette taxes in 1976. This year, say USDA economists, further gains in population and consumer spending could mean a further increase in the use and production of cigarettes. The trend toward low-tar, low-nicotine types is expected to continue.

TRADE TURNABOUT? . . Italy, the world's biggest wine exporter, could become a market for U.S. wines. That unique possibility surfaced

last September when U.S. wine producers were invited to exhibit in Italy's annual Vini d'Italia show for the first time. While Italians consider California wine something of a novelty, the U.S. exhibitors received over 150 inquiries—mainly from restaurant owners and representatives of the institutional trade—concerning the possibility of importing American wines. Any wine sales to Italy would constitute a major breakthrough, since the country supplied a third of the world's wine exports in 1975, shipping an estimated \$56 million worth to the United States alone.

DISASTER FILERS. . . Last year, more than 386,000 farmers applied for disaster payments, reports USDA's Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS). That figure translates into 48% more applications than in 1975, when only 261,000 farmers filed for aid—the fewest since the program began in 1973. Current legislation states that farmers may be eligible for payment if they are prevented from planting wheat, feed grains, or cotton, or if yields for these crops are greatly reduced due to bad weather or other natural disasters. Officials say that much of the rise in applications during 1976 was caused by extremely dry weather over large areas of the country. Reduced yields—especially for wheat and corn—accounted for most of the applications. Total payments made by ASCS as of December 31, 1976: \$289 million, compared with 1975's \$139 million.

AMPLE ENOUGH. . . Last fall, U.S. fertilizer manufacturers reported smaller inventories than the year before, but supplies appeared generally abundant, according to USDA economists. This year, production capacity for anhydrous ammonia should increase sharply, with slight gains expected in wet process phosphoric acid. If production levels hold steady, supplies should prove adequate to meet farmer needs during the 1976/77 fertilizer year. Meantime, American producers should pay steady to somewhat lower prices for fertilizers.

SEARCH FOR SUN POWER. . . New studies on the use of solar energy to replace fossil fuels in drying grain are underway in 12 States. Funded by the Energy Research and Development Administration and coordinated by USDA's Agricultural Research Service, the 1-year studies continue research begun in 1974, which showed the practicality of using solar heat to supplement low-temperature drying of grain. Participating States include: Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Kentucky, South Dakota, and Texas. USDA scientists estimate that dependence on LP gas and other fossil fuels for drying grain can be cut as much as 50% when technology for solar drying is fully developed. Currently, farmers use the equivalent of 640 million gallons of LP gas each year to dry rice and corn.

Statistical Barometer

Item	1974	1975	1976—latest available data
Farm Food Market Basket:¹			
Retail cost (1967=100)	162	175	173 November
Farm value (1967=100)	178	187	169 November
Farmer's share of retail cost (percent)	43	42	38 November
Farm Income:			
Volume of farm marketings (1967=100)	111	115	157 November
Cash receipts from farm marketings (\$bil.)	92.6	89.6	93.8 3
Realized gross farm income (\$bil.)	100.2	98.2	103.3 3
Production expenses (\$bil.)	72.4	75.5	81.5 3
Realized net farm income (\$bil.)	27.8	22.7	21.8 3
Income and Spending:			
Disposable personal income (\$bil.)	982.9	1,080.9	1,216.9 2
Expenditures for food (\$bil.)	167.0	184.8	204.3 2
Share of income spent for food (percent)	17.0	17.1	16.8
Agricultural Trade:			
Agricultural exports (\$bil.)	22	22	2.1 November
Agricultural imports (\$bil.)	10	10	1.0 November
Hogs and Pigs:			
Hogs and pigs on farms, December 1 (million)	55.1	49.6	55.1 December
Kept for breeding (million)	7.4	7.6	8.0 December
Market (million)	47.6	42.0	47.4 December
June-November pig crop (million)	38.9	35.8	42.4 December
Annual pig crop (million)	84.0	71.3	84.6 December
Value per head (\$)	45.10	80.30	47.00 December
U.S. Farms:			
Number (thousands)	2,830	2,808	2,778 December
Total land in farms (million acres)	1,088	1,086	1,084 December
Average size of farms (acres)	384	387	390 December

¹Average annual quantities per family and single person households bought by wage and clerical workers, 1960-61, based on Bureau of Labor Statistics figures.

²Annual rate, seasonally adjusted, fourth quarter.

³Annual rate, seasonally adjusted, third quarter.



Crop
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AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

MARCH 1977 • VOL. 61 NO. 2
DIANE DECKER, EDITOR

The Agricultural Situation, published 11 times a year by USDA's Statistical Reporting Service, is distributed free to crop and livestock reporters in connection with their work. Contents of the magazine may be reprinted without permission. The Secretary of Agriculture has determined that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business required by law of this Department. Use of funds for printing this periodical has been approved by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget through January 31, 1979. Subscription price \$3.30 a year (\$4.15 foreign). Order from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Single copies available from the SRS Information Staff, Rm. 5855-South, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250.

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